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Manitoba

Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board

Flood Assistance Program in the Swan River Area

1988

Final Report

MANITOBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE BOARD

FINAL REPORT ON THE 1988 FLOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE SWAN RIVER AREA

INDEX

PREFACE	PAGE
LETTER TO THE MINISTER	1
FORWARD	2
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	3
SECTION 1. DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE MAY 1988 FLOODING	4
SECTION 2. ORDERS-IN-COUNCIL	5
A. Establishment of the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board	5
B. Appointment of the Board Members	5
C. The Flood Assistance Program	5
SECTION 3. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	7
SECTION 4. STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE 1988 FLOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	12
A. Summary of Individuals who Received Financial Assistance for Private Sector Damages	12
B. Summary of Municipalities which Received Financial Assistance For Public Sector Damages	25
C. Administration Costs	25
SECTION 5. CONCLUSION	26

91-00365/

APPENDIX A. Section 17 of the Emergency Measures Act.

APPENDIX B. Order-in-Council 893/88.

APPENDIX C. Order-in-Council 711/88.

APPENDIX D. Order-in-Council 710/88.

APPENDIX E. Letter from the Honourable Albert Driedger to the Honourable Perrin Beatty.

APPENDIX F. News Release Announcing the Commencement of the Flood Inspection.

APPENDIX G. Land Restoration Policy.

APPENDIX H. Letter from the Honourable Perrin Beatty to the Province Agreeing to Participate in Cost-Sharing.

APPENDIX I. News Release Announcing Flood Assistance Program in the Swan River Area.

APPENDIX J. Letter to Various Municipalities Advising them of the Program.

APPENDIX K. All the Forms Used to Administer the Flood Assistance Program.

APPENDIX L. Newspaper Articles Written on the Swan River Program.

Manitoba

Government Services

Manitoba Disaster
Assistance Board

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(204) 945-3050

July 10, 1990

The Honourable Albert Driedger
Minister of Government Services
Room 203 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Minister:

We wish to advise that the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board, established under Section 17 of the Emergency Measures Act, has completed the work assigned to it under Orders-in-Council 710 and 711, dated June 22, 1988, regarding the Flood Assistance Program in the Swan River area. We, therefore, now submit the final report of the Board's activities and findings under this program.

We are grateful for the privilege of being of service to the residents of Manitoba.

Yours truly,

Joseph Masi, Secretary

Sydney Reimer, Chairman

Lorne Boguski, Vice-Chairman

Lois Edie, Board Member

FORWARD

The flooding which struck the Swan River area in May of 1988, caused severe hardship to those Manitobans.

Efforts were made by many of the residents to clean the damages and also repair the erosion of farmland, affected homes and municipal structures.

The Manitoba Government announced a flood assistance program to financially assist those individuals and municipalities that incurred damages.

In the pages that follow, the details of this program are outlined as well as the activities and findings of the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Board wishes to express its appreciation to the Government of Manitoba for providing financial assistance to resolve the problems which arose from the flooding in the Swan River area in May of 1988. Particular thanks should go to the Honourable Albert Driedger, Minister of Government Services, and his staff, all of whom provided the Board with information and other material aid to ensure the program was a success.

The Board also thanks its staff for the diligent and conscientious manner in which the business of the Board was conducted.

The Board is grateful to the municipal officials of the R.M. of Swan River, Town of Swan River, R.M. of Minitonas, Village of Minitonas, L.G.D. of Mountain, R.M. of Hillsburg, R.M. of Ethelbert, Village of Benito, L.G.D. of Park, R.M. of Shell River, and R.M. of Grandview and also Indian Birch Reserve for their excellent cooperation with the Board in distributing the application forms, and making their residents fully aware of the program.

Finally, the Board would like to thank the news media for their help in promoting the program, and the public whom we were privileged to serve.

SECTION 1

DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE MAY 1988 FLOODING

There was a great deal of damage caused by the May 1988 flooding in the Swan River area. The flooding was the worst in the 24 years that data have been collected by the Department of Natural Resources.

The flood was caused by a combination of 75 millimeters of rain in a 48 hour period and 3 late spring blizzards.

The damages included severe farmland erosion, flooded basements and outbuildings, loss of cattle and other animals due to drowning, loss of bridges and culverts, and extensive road damage. The area affected covered 7,250 square kilometers between the Porcupine Mountains and Swan Lake. It was estimated that 90 percent of the people in Swan River and Minitonas were affected.

Overall, the flood was one of the worst in the history of Manitoba and the effects will be felt for many years.

SECTION 2

ORDERS-IN-COUNCIL

A. Establishment of the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board (Appendix A)

The Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board was established under Section 17 of the Emergency Measures Act. It is responsible for: recommending to the Minister government policy on disaster assistance; making decisions concerning payments in response to disaster assistance claims; and reporting to the Minister on disaster assistance matters. The Board provides a readily activated mechanism for dealing with damage related matters referred to it as a result of natural or human-made disasters.

B. Appointment of the Board Members (Appendix B)

Order-in-Council 893/88 appointed Mr. Sydney Reimer as Member and Chairman, Mr. Lorne Boguski as a Member and Vice-Chairman, and Lois Edie as a Member of the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board. This Order-in-Council outlined the powers and remuneration of the members of the Board.

C. The Flood Assistance Program (Appendix C & D)

Order-in-Council 711/88 contained the terms of reference and limits of compensation of the flood assistance program for individuals affected by the May 1988 flooding. The assistance was in the form of an ex-gratia cash grant of up to 80% of approved costs, to a maximum of $30,000.00. Financial assistance was provided to help defray the costs of damage to buildings, residential dwellings, farmlands suffering erosion, personal out-of-pocket expenses, and various moveable objects. This program was administered by the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board.

Order-in-Council 710/88 contained the terms of reference and limits of compensation for assistance to the various municipalities affected by the May 1988 flood. The assistance was in the form of a cash grant to the municipality for damages to municipal drains, bridges, and roads. The municipality received 90% of their approved costs. The normal cost-sharing formula between the province and the municipality was waived for this program since the federal government agreed to cost-share the total flood costs with the province on the following formula:

Provincial Per Capita Eligible Cost	Federal Share	Provincial Share
$0.00 to $1.00	0%	100%
$1.01 to $3.00	50%	50%
$3.01 to $5.00	75%	25%
$5.01 Plus	90%	10%

This program was also administered by the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board.

SECTIOIN 3

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

On April 6, 1988, the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board office received calls from the Rural Municipality of Swan River and Village of Benito advising of some private and public sector flood damages.

On April 8, 1988, the Board recommended to the Minister of Government Services that the R.M. of Swan River and Village of Benito be declared eligible for disaster assistance.

Over the next three weeks, the flooding situation worsened in the area. More municipalities and individuals were affected until the situation reached a crisis level. The Premier Elect, Gary Filmon, toured the area in order to better acquaint himself with the magnitude of the problem.

On May 9, 1988, the new provincial government of the Honourable Gary Filmon was sworn into office. Officials from the various departments, including the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board, were called in to brief the new government on the flooding situation in the Swan River area. On May 10, 1988, the Honourable Albert Driedger, Minister of Government Services, wrote to the Honourable Perrin Beatty, Federal Minister Responsible for Emergency Preparedness, requesting federal participation in the costs associated with the flood. A copy of this letter is enclosed under Appendix E.
In addition, the same day, the Premier issued a news release indicating the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board would begin the flood inspections in the Swan River area. A copy of the news release is enclosed under Appendix F.

The Board began meeting with the Department of Agriculture to see how the erosion claims should be handled in order to restore the land into production. The serious erosion of farmland was probably the worst problem caused by the flooding.

After numerous meetings, a land restoration policy for eroded soils was developed and approved by the Board. The policy is enclosed under Appendix G.

In the meantime, the federal government responded to the provinces's request for cost-sharing by agreeing to participate. A copy of the letter from the Honourable Perrin Beatty is enclosed under Appendix H.

On June 22, 1988, the province approved Orders-in-Council 710 and 711 and a news release was issued announcing financial assistance for individuals and municipalities in the Swan River area affected by the flooding. A copy of the news release is enclosed under Appendix I. Letters were also sent to the various municipalities advising them of the program. A copy of the letter is enclosed under Appendix J.

After these letters were sent to the various communities, application forms began arriving in the Board's office. These application forms were segragated into basic flood damage areas, coded, stamped numerically, and recorded on index cards arranged alphabetically. File folders were then prepared for each applicant. Registered ownership was checked and photocopies made of each application. These files were passed to the Secretary to the Board, and he delegated them to the Chief Inspector for distribution to the inspectors who were hired by the Board.

Upon completion of the inspection, the files were returned to the Chief Inspector to ensure that the inspection reports were completed properly. Once the Chief Inspector was satisfied with the reports, they were passed to the evaluation staff and assessment of damages and losses were then calculated, based on the Board's compensation guidelines for erosion, homes and moveable objects. The files were then handed to the Secretary for his scrutiny and approval and a member of the Board was required to sign this approval.

Following this approval, award letters were prepared and signed by a Board member along with the Secretary. The award letters were then mailed to the applicants along with the financial assistance agreement form. The purpose of this form was to ensure that the claimant did not receive any other compensation from any other sources for his losses, and secondly, that the claimant was satisfied with the amount of compensation. In situations where the assessment of structural damages amounted to less than $2,000.00, a cheque voucher was prepared and sent to the Department of Finance along with the award letter and the financial assistance agreement. This procedure also applied to awards granted for moveable objects, personal effects, etc. except that no limitation was placed on the amount of the award letter or voucher, provided the amount was within the limits approved by the Order-in-Council. In this case, a cheque requisition and the financial assistance agreement were required to be signed by the claimant.

Structural damages amounting to over $2,000.00 were handled in a somewhat different manner in that no voucher was made at the time of the award letter. In these cases, the original bills were required to be submitted by the applicant. From these bills, a cheque requisition form

was prepared, handed to an inspector, whose task was to visit the property and confirm the repairs had been completed. Both the applicant and inspector signed statements on this form that the work was satisfactorily completed. These forms were then returned to the office, inserted in the file, checked and signed by the Secretary, along with a Board member. A cheque voucher was made up and after appropriate signatures were affixed to the voucher, the vouchers were sent to the provincial audit office for approval and processing of the cheque.

This same procedure was used for all those awards that included farmland erosion in them, except that the amount of the award was not taken into account. All erosion claims had to be re-inspected before payment was made to the claimant.

Each award letter had a number and these numbers were listed on the index cards on the appropriate space. The files were then placed in completed file drawers in numeric order for future reference.

In a few of the situations, appeals were made by the applicants or evidence of additional costs were received. These were reviewed carefully by the Board, and if justified, supplements were awarded. A list of all the forms used to administer the flood assistance program is enclosed in this report under Appendix K.

The final items that the Board had to establish were the deadlines for receiving applications and for completing repairs. After consideration by the Board, a deadline of June 30, 1988 was established as the last date on which the Board could accept applications for assistance, and July 30, 1989 was established as the final date for completing repairs to homes and

farmland erosion. It should be noted that the Board authorized extensions for a few claimants to complete their repairs. The extension granted was to August 31, 1989

The public sector (municipal damages) was administered by the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board.

The Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board collected the claim from the various municipalities for their damages for inspection and evaluation. Subsequent to the completion of the evaluation, a recommendation for payment was made to the Board and the Board authorized a payment to the municipality.

A copy of all the newspaper articles written on the Swan River program is enclosed under Appendix L.

SECTION 4

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE 1988 FLOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

A. Summary of Individuals who Received Financial Assistance for Private Sector Damages

The following is a summary of all the claims submitted to the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board for the May 1988 Flood Assistance Program in the Swan River area.

Village of Benito:

Total Claims Received by the Board		8
Completed Claims		6
- Progress Payments	1	
- Appeal Cases	0	
No Calim		2

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award VOB - Under $2,000.00	4	$ 2,085.05
Award VOB2 - Over $2,000.00	2	20,885.05
Total	6	$22,970.10
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		0.0
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		$22,970.10
Total		$22,970.10
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$ 3,828.35

Camperville;

Total Claims Received by the Board		1
Completed Claims		1
- Progress Payments	0	
- Appeal Cases	0	
No Claim		0

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award CAM - Under $2,000.00	0	
Award CAM2- Over $2,000.00	1	$2,139.33
Total	1	$2,139.33
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		0.0
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		$2,139.33
Total		$2,139.33
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$2,139.33

Ethelbert:

Total Claims Received by the Board		47
Completed Claims		38
- Progress Payments	18	
- Appeal Cases	1	
- Closed	1	
No Claim		9

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award RME - Under $2,000.00	15	$14,109.04
Award RME2 - Over $2,000.00	23	83,425.67
Total	38	$97,534.71
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		66,467.62
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		31,067.09
Total		$97,534.71
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$ 2,566.70

Grandview:

Total Claims Received by the Board		3
Completed Claims		3
- Progress Payments	2	
- Appeal Cases	1	
No Claim		0

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award RMG - Under $2,000.00	0	
Award RMG2 - Over $2,000.00	3	$12,726.11
Total	3	$12,726.11
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		12,726.11
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		0.0
Total		$12,726.11
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$ 4,242.04

Hillsburg:

Total Claims Received by the Board		7
Completed Claims		7
- Progress Payments	2	
- Appeal Cases	0	
No Claim		0

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award HIL - Under $2,000.00	2	$ 1,181.96
Award HIL2 - Over $2,000.00	5	20,159.55
Total	7	$21,341.51
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		21,341.51
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		0.0
Total		$21,341.51
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$ 3,048.79

Indian Birch Band:

Total Claims Received by the Board		30
Completed Claims		18
- Progress payments	2	
- Appeal Cases	0	
No Claim		12

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award IBB - Under $2,000.00	12	$12,189.58
Award IBB2 - Over $2,000.00	6	18,212.80
Total	18	$30,402.38
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		0.00
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		$30,402.38
Total		$30,402.38
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$ 1,689.02

R.M. of Minitonas:

Total Claims Received by the Board		89
Completed Claims		80
- Progress Payments	0	
- Appeal Cases	1	
No Claim		9

Compensation Costs:

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award MIN - Under $2,000.00	56	$ 57,421.33
Award MIN2 - Over $2,000.00	24	131,623.80
Total	80	$189,045.13
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		147,207.80
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		41,837.33
Total		$189,045.13
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$ 2,124.10

L.G.D. of Mountain:

Total Claims Received by the Board		104
Completed Claims		93
- Progress Payments	0	
- Appeal Cases	3	
No Claim		11

Compensation Costs:

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award LGM - Under $2,000.00	46	$ 45,729.09
Award LGM2 - Over $2,000.00	47	252,282.50
Total	93	$298,011.59
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		204,682.30
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		93,329.29
Total		$298,011.59
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$ 3,204.43

L.G.D. of Park:

Total Claims Received by the Board		2
Completed Claims		2
- Progress Payments	0	
- Appeal Cases	3	
No Claim		0

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award LGP - Under $2,000.00	2	$3,256.39
Award LGP2 - Over $2,000.00	0	0.00
Total	2	$3,256.39
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		$3,256.39
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		0.00
Total		$3,256.39
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$1,628.20

R.M. of Shell River:

Total Claims Received by the Board		5
Completed Claims		5
- Progress Payment	3	
- Appeal Cases	0	
No Claim		0

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award RSR - Under $2,000.00	4	$4,100.16
Award RSR2 - Over $2,000.00	1	2,115.44
Total	5	$6,215.60
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		$4,112.82
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		2,102.78
Total		$6,215.60
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$1,243.12

R.M. of Swan River

Total Claims Received by the Board		152
Completed Claims		131
- Progress Payments	56	
- Appeal Cases	1	
No Claim		21

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award RMS - Under $2,000.00	74	$ 71,867.60
Award RMS2 - Over $2,000.00	57	328,386.50
Total	131	$400,254.10
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		348,215.50
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		52,038.60
Total		$400,254.10
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$ 3,055.38

Town of Swan River:

Total Claims Received by the Board		14
Completed Claims		4
- Progress Payments	0	
- Appeal Cases	2	
No Claim		10

Compensation Costs

	No. of Claims	Amount of Compensation
Award TSR - Under $2,000.00	2	$ 2,297.44
Award TSR2 - Over $2,000.00	2	9,141.33
Total	4	$11,438.77
Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages		9,141.33
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages		2,297.44
Total		$11,438.77
Average Amount of Compensation Per Claim		$ 2,859.69

Grand Totals:

Total Claims Received by the Board		462
Completed Claims	388	
- Progress Payments	84	
- Appeal Cases	12	
No Claim	74	

Total Amount Paid for Erosion Damages	$ 817,151.38
Total Amount Paid for Other Damages	278,184.34
Total	$1,095,335.72
Average Amount Per Claim	$ 2,823.03

B. **Summary of Municipalities Which Received Financial Assistance for Public Sector Damages**

Municipality	Population	Approved Payments Total
R.M. of Swan River	3227	$194,845.69
Town of Swan River	3946	8,947.89
R.M. of Minitonas	1298	131,064.50
Village of Minitonas	559	697.92
L.G.D. of Mountain	2345	6,172.87
R.M. of Ethelbert	673	17,371.33
Village of Benito	451	7,002.04
Indian Birch Reserve		7,699.93
TOTAL		**$373,802.17**

Total compensation paid under the program (A + B) **$1,469,137.89**

C. **Administration Costs** **$ 274,597.29**

SECTION 5

CONCLUSION

The Board is satisfied that the May 1988 Flood Assistance Program in the Swan River area was administered according to the terms of reference and limits of compensation in the Orders-in-Council.

A number of claimants and municipalities expressed their appreciation for the help they received. Every effort was made to be fair without abusing the trust invested in us by the Government of Manitoba.

The Board wishes to express its commitment to continue to serve the Government of Manitoba whenever disaster assistance programs are referred to the Board for administration and implementation. It is only with the full cooperation of all people involved that the residents of Manitoba can continue to receive assistance in times of disasters. The Board pledges itself to that cooperation.

APPENDIX "A"

SECTION 17 OF THE EMERGENCY MEASURES ACT

Establishment of Disaster Assistance Board.
17(1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall appoint a board to be known as the Disaster Assistance Board consisting of not less than three or more than five persons.

Chairperson and vice-chairperson.
17(2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall appoint one of the persons appointed under subsection (1) as the chairperson of the board and another as vice-chairperson.

Term of office.
17(3) The members of the board shall hold office for such term as may be fixed in the order appointing them and thereafter until their successors are appointed.

Remuneration.
17(4) The members of the board who are not civil servants may be paid such remuneration and out-of-pocket expenses as may be authorized by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Rules of procedure.
17(5) The board may make rules governing its procedure and is responsible to the minister for the performance of its duties.

Duties of board.
17(6) The board shall
(a) subject to the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, prepare and maintain disaster assistance policy and disaster assistance guidelines for emergencies and disasters for Manitoba;
(b) develop and maintain procedures for the submission and processing of claims for disaster assistance;
(c) consult with government departments and private institutions in order to prepare specific proposals for the establishment and implementation of disaster assistance programs; and
(d) perform such other duties as are vested in it by this Act and the regulations and as may be assigned to it by the minister.

Constitution du Conseil de secours aux personnes sinistrées
17(1) Le lieutenant-gouverneur en conseil constitue le Conseil de secours aux personnes sinistrées, composé d'au moins trois et d'au plus cinq personnes.

Nomination d'un président
17(2) Le lieutenant-gouverneur en conseil désigne parmi les personnes nommées en application du paragraphe (1) un président et un vice-président du Conseil.

Mandat
17(3) La durée du mandat des membres du Conseil est déterminée par décret du lieutenant-gouverneur en conseil. À l'expiration de leur mandat, les membres restent en fonction jusqu'à la nomination de leurs successeurs.

Rémunération
17(4) Les membres du Conseil qui ne sont pas des fonctionnaires ont droit à la rémunération et aux débours que peut autoriser le lieutenant-gouverneur en conseil.

Règles de procédure
17(5) Le Conseil peut établir des règles régissant sa procédure et rend compte au ministre de l'accomplissement de ses fonctions.

Fonctions du Conseil
17(6) Le Conseil doit :
a) sous réserve de l'approbation du lieutenant-gouverneur en conseil, élaborer et avoir des politiques et des directives s'appliquant au Manitoba en matière de secours aux personnes sinistrées en cas de situation d'urgence ou de sinistre;
b) élaborer et avoir une procédure relativement aux demandes de secours et au traitement de celles-ci;
c) consulter les ministères du gouvernement et les institutions privées en vue d'élaborer des propositions précises quant à l'établissement et à l'application de programmes de secours aux personnes sinistrées;
d) accomplir les fonctions que la présente loi ou les règlements lui confèrent et que le ministre peut lui attribuer.

APPENDIX "B"

ORDER-IN-COUNCIL 893/88

AUG 9 1988

August 8, 1988: Copied to Administration/M.D.M.S. (M.G.S. 127/88)

Order in Council

MANITOBA

ON MATTERS OF STATE

DEPUTY MINISTER AUG 8 1988 OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

No. 893

To The Honourable the ~~Lieutenant Governor~~ ADMINISTRATOR in Council

The undersigned, the Minister of Government Services

submits for approval of Council a report setting forth that:

WHEREAS it was deemed expedient and in the public interest to establish "The Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board" to administer programs of assistance to victims of designated disasters referred to it by the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council;

AND WHEREAS by Order-in-Council 686/83, Albert St. Hilaire was appointed as Member and Chairman; Willis Ayers was appointed as Member and Vice-Chairman; and Larry Kehler was appointed as Member of The Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council;

AND WHEREAS by Order-in-Council 428/84, Order-in-Council 686/83 was amended to replace Larry Kehler with Rudy Regehr as a member of the Disaster Assistance Board.

AND WHEREAS it is deemed advisable to revoke the appointments to the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board of Albert St. Hilaire, Willis Ayers and Rudy Regehr, effective July 27, 1988.

AND WHEREAS it is deemed advisable to appoint Sydney Reimer, Member and Chairman; Lorne Boguski, Member and Vice-Chairman, and Lois Edie, Member of The Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board, effective July 28, 1988 to serve for a one year term to July 27, 1989 inclusive.

THEREFORE he, the Minister, recommends:

THAT the appointments of Albert St. Hilaire, Willis Ayers and Rudy Regehr to the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board be revoked effective July 27, 1988.

THAT the appointments of Sydney Reimer, Member and Chairman; Lorne Boguski, Member and Vice-Chairman; and Lois Edie, Member of The Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board be made effective July 28, 1988 to serve for a one year term to July 27, 1989 inclusive.

THAT the Chairman and Members be paid the salaries, expenses and expenditures and undertakings of said Board from out of the Consolidated Fund with monies authorized under an Act of the Legislature to be so paid and applied, the sum of twenty-five dollars ($25.00) per hour for each hour spent on the business of the Board, together with such actual expenses as they incur in the performance of their duties.

Initiating Department/Agency

Approved By C.S.C. Finance

Approved as to form by: Initials

All Litigation Branch/Legislative Counsel:

Signature Albert St. Hilaire

IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WINNIPEG

Upon consideration of the foregoing report and recommendation Council advises that it be done as recommended.

28 July 1988
Date

President or Presiding Member

AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE IN THE CITY OF WINNIPEG

Approved and Ordered this 29th day of July A.D. 1988

Lieutenant-Governor ADMINISTRATOR

rsr 69

APPENDIX "C"

ORDER-IN-COUNCIL 711/88

MANITOBA

JUL 4 1988

Order in Council

No. 711

ON MATTERS OF STATE

To The Honourable the Lieutenant Governor in Council

The undersigned, the Minister of ...Government Services...
submits for approval of Council a report setting forth that:

WHEREAS the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board has been established under Section 17(1) of the Emergency Measures Act to inquire into damages caused by a disaster;

AND WHEREAS there were extensive flood damages in the Village of Benito, R.M. of Swan River, R.M. of Ethelbert, R.M. of Minitonas, Town of Swan River, L.G.D. of Mountain, Village of Minitonas, Pine Creek Indian Reserve, and Indian Birch Reserve in the spring of 1988;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient and advisable to provide assistance to those who have suffered damages as a result of the flooding;

AND WHEREAS funds in the amount of $980,000.00 have been made available for these purposes as authorized by special warrant funding for expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1989 as per Orders-in-Council Numbers 256 and 528/88;

THEREFORE he, the Minister, recommends

1. THAT the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board shall determine whether the Disaster Assistance Program applies to each individual case.

2. THAT assistance be allowed in respect of the following, namely

   (a) dwelling houses including those used in part for the conduct of business;
   (b) buildings which in the opinion of the Board are appurtenant to a dwelling house;
   (c) buildings on farms other than dwellings which are essential to the farm business;
   (d) buildings used for the conduct of a business owned by a person or persons who in the opinion of the Board are engaged in small business;
   (e) apartment blocks owned by a person or persons who in the opinion of the Board are engaged in a small business;
   (f) farmlands which have been damaged by erosion;
   (g) additional personal out-of-pocket expenses as set out in Schedule "A";

   ; and shall be first determined by evaluators appointed by the Board and estimated on the cost of good average materials as determined by the Board; and such work as; in the opinion of the Board and within reason, may be necessary to restore such buildings to a similar condition as existed prior to flooding subject to the limitations hereinafter provided.

3. THAT the total amount of assistance to be allowed in respect of all losses i.e. damaged buildings and additional out-of-pocket expenses shall be subject to a deductible of $250.00 or 25% of approved costs, whichever is greater, to a maximum of $30,000.00.

4. THAT notwithstanding anything in this Order the persons to whom assistance may be granted will be:

   (a) all persons whose buildings, property or place of residence were in the opinion of the Board within the inundated area caused by flooding; and
   (b) who have filed an application with the Board for an assistance grant; and
   (c) who have satisfied the Board that they are the owners of the property damaged or the persons otherwise entitled to apply for assistance.

5. THAT the said Board shall have the power to rent office accommodation, to rent or purchase office supplies, to purchase stationery and to employ and fix salaries of such persons as may be required to enable the said Board to carry out the work assigned to it.

6. THAT the salaries of the members of the Board and the persons employed by the said Board and all other expenses which may be incurred by the said Board be paid out of an account to be established by the Department of Finance for such purpose under presentation of a requisition signed on behalf of the said Board by a member of the said Board and countersigned by the Secretary of the Board and a requisition so signed shall be conclusive proof that the said payment has been properly made under this Order.

Minister of ... JUN 28 1988

7. THAT the Chairman and members of the Board receive the sum of twenty-five dollars ($25.00) per hour for each hour spent on the business of the Board, together with such actual expenses as they incur in the performance of their duties.

8. THAT when the amount of assistance in respect of a building or buildings and/or other out-of-pocket expenses have been determined in accordance with the terms of this Order, the Board shall set up a credit in an account in the name of the owner or the person or persons otherwise entitled to apply for assistance, to be kept by the Board and the person in whose name the account is opened in compliance with the procedure established by the Board may apply to the Board to have requisitions for the purchase of material and accounts for labour chargeable against the said credit.

9. THAT the Board shall issue requisitions for payment for materials and labour and other out-of-pocket expenses which have been supplied and charged against the said credits and for cash allowances in settlement of such credits that are less than two thousand dollars ($2,000.00); and that the Provincial Auditor be authorized to approve and pass for payment and the Department of Government Services be authorized to pay out of an account to be established by the Department of Finance such requisitions when signed by a member of the Board and countersigned by the Secretary of the Board and a requisition so signed shall be conclusive proof that the said payment has been properly made under this Order.

10. THAT all individuals and businesses who apply for assistance under this program may appeal to the Board, if they are not satisfied with their awards.

11. THAT all compensation payments made under this Order-in-Council shall be ex-gratia.

12. THAT the Minister be authorized to make payments under the Order-in-Council to be paid out of or from authority provided by Orders-in-Council 256 and 528/88 and be recorded against Appropriation 18-1D or such other Appropriation number as may be determined by the Minister of Finance for the purposes of the next ensuing estimates of expenditure to be submitted to the Legislative Assembly in respect of the fiscal year ending March 31, 1989.

Initiating Department/Agency

partment/Agency Authorized Officer

M.P.A.I.B. [signature]

Approved By

C.M.C. Finance

proved as to form by:

me R. Gray Q.C.

Initials

Litigation Branch, Leg. ...ive Counsel: RJH

Signature [signature]

IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WINNIPEG

Upon consideration of the foregoing report and recommendation Council advises that it be done as recommended.

22nd June 1988
Date

[signature]
President or Presiding Member

AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE IN THE CITY OF WINNIPEG

Approved and Ordered this 22nd day of June A.D. 1988

[signature]
Lieutenant Governor

PSF 40A

This is the Schedule "A" referred to in Order in Council No. 711/85

Clerk of the Executive Council

Schedule "A"

Additional Personal and Out-of-Pocket Expenses

These may include the following:

1. Cost of moving and feeding of livestock, etc.

2. Value of destroyed livestock, damaged grain in bins, hay stacked or baled, etc., small business inventories, market garden plants in greenhouses and equipment and other goods produced for livelihood.

3. Labour and other out-of-pocket expenses as a result of erecting or removing dykes where this was not provided by provincial or a municipal government. (Including such protective measures as wrapping houses with polyethylene and boarding up.)

4. Costs involved in the moving and storing of furniture, chattels, etc.

5. Repair or partial replacement of refrigerators, freezers, and allowance re contents, washing machines, dryers, furniture and cleaning or repair of damaged carpets, bedding, etc.

6. Evacuation and outside living expenses incurred where moving of persons ordered or required.

7. Loss of clothing of an essential nature.

8. Repair of farm equipment.

APPENDIX "D"

ORDER-IN-COUNCIL 710/88

MANITOBA

Order in Council

ON MATTERS OF STATE JUN 1 1988 No. 710

To The Honourable the Lieutenant Governor in Council

The undersigned, the Minister of Government Services
submits for approval of Council a report setting forth that:

WHEREAS flooding has occurred during the spring of 1988 as a result of spring runoff and heavy rains, causing damage to certain public works;

AND WHEREAS the Village of Benito, R.M.s of Swan River, Ethelbert, Town of Swan River, L.G.D. of Mountain, Village of Minitonas, Indian Birch Reserve and Pine Creek Indian Reserve took precautionary measures to prevent damage from anticipated flood flows as estimated by flood forecasts; The R.M. of Minitonas is also included.

AND WHEREAS an inspection team has been assigned to the affected areas and the team leader has contacted the municipalities and reserves to arrange for an inspection of the listed items;

AND WHEREAS the inspection team consisted of:

(a) A representative of the Engineering and Construction Branch (Team Leader);
(b) a representative of the Department of Highways;
(c) a representative of the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board.
(d) Where in the opinion of the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board circumstances so required, a representative of an appropriate government department or agency.

AND WHEREAS the Reeve of the municipality and Chief of the Reserve were requested to designate a representative to accompany the team during the inspection;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient and advisable to provide financial assistance to these municipalities and reserves due to flooding during the spring of 1988;

AND WHEREAS funds in the amount of $980,000.00 have been made available for these purposes as authorized by special warrant funding for expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1989 as per Orders-in-Council Numbers 256 and 528/88;

THEREFORE he, the Minister, recommends

1. THAT financial assistance be extended to the Village of Benito, R.M.s of Swan River, Ethelbert, Town of Swan River, L.G.D. of Mountain, Village of Minitonas, Indian Birch Reserve, and Pine Creek Indian Reserve as a result of spring flooding during 1988. The R.M. of Minitonas is also included.

2. THAT the municipality and reserve be authorized to proceed with approved repair works.

3. THAT upon request by the municipality and reserve, the province advance to the municipality and reserve a cash advance not exceeding 75% of the estimated amount of the provincial share of the approved flood fighting and restoration costs.

4. THAT upon completion of the approved repair works, the municipality and reserve, submit to the Director, Engineering Branch, a Statutory Declaration accompanied by a list of repairs and costs, supporting bills and receipts in evidence of payment. Subsequent to this, a final inspection will be carried out and a final grant paid.

5. THAT where the municipality and reserve rents equipment from contractors or other persons or agencies, the maximum rental rates that be approved under this assistance program will not be greater than the current government rental rates. Information in respect to these rates can be obtained from the Engineering and Construction Branch.

6. THAT an Inter-Departmental Review Committee hear appeals from the municipality and reserve in the case of claims initially rejected by the inspection team. In the event that the municipality and reserve wishes to appeal a decision made by the inspection team, it will submit such as appeal to the Director, Engineering and Construction Branch, who is the Chairman of the Inter-Departmental Review Committee.

Minister of Government Services #288 JUN 28 1988

7. THAT provincial assistance to the municipalities and reserves relating to damages to municipal and reserve property be based on the categories as detailed in Schedule "A".

8. THAT the municipalities and reserves will be responsible for 10% of their eligible costs.

9. THAT the Minister be authorized to make payments under the Order-in-Council to be paid out of or from authority provided by Orders-in-Council 256 and 528/88 and be recorded against Appropriation 18-1D or such other Appropriation number as may be determined by the Minister of Finance for the purposes of the next ensuing estimates of expenditure to be submitted to the Legislative Assembly in respect of the fiscal year ending March 31, 1989.

Initiating Department/Agency

Department/Agency Authorized Officer

M.D.A.H. J. [illegible]

Approved By

C.S.C. Finance

Approved as to form by:

Name K. Greg Yost

Civil Litigation Branch or Legislative Counsel: Initials KGY

Signature [illegible]

IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WINNIPEG

Upon consideration of the foregoing report and recommendation Council advises that it be done as recommended.

22nd June 1988
Date

President or Presiding Member

AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE IN THE CITY OF WINNIPEG

Approved and Ordered this 22nd day of June A.D. 1988

Lieutenant Governor

PSF 40A

This is the Schedule "A" referred to in Order in Council No. 710/88

Clerk of the Executive Council

Schedule "A"

Categories of Damages & Losses

Eligible for Cost-Sharing

Costs which are deemed eligible for sharing by the province will consist of the following:

1. Flood Fighting

a) Municipal Dyking

The province will assist a municipality and a reserve in the costs incurred by it for the construction of emergency dykes, removal of those dykes and restoration of property affected by the construction and removal of dykes including roads under or adjacent to the dykes.

In the event a municipality or a reserve chooses to leave dykes constructed during the emergency in place, these dykes must be shaped and stabilized to a standard approved by the Water Resources Branch. No assistance is available for this work.

These costs cover:

(i) Labour which includes the actual payroll costs for the construction and removal of dykes but shall not include wages or salaries of regular staff. However, overtime costs, up to one and one-half times the regular rate, whether for regular or temporary staff, incurred during the construction of dykes, will be allowed.

The province will not however, participate in payment of overtime wages incurred during the removal of the dykes.

(ii) Normal operating cost of equipment including rentals.

(iii) Purchase of sandbags.

(iv) Purchase of sand, gravel, earth or other fill.

(v) Purchase and acquisition of miscellaneous dyke materials and maintenance etc., necessary for the building or maintaining of a dyke system.

(vi) Damages that have occurred to private property during the construction or removal of dykes, provided the damage was caused through an operation authorized by the municipality or the reserve.

(vii) Repairs to municipal roads damaged during the hauling of materials and equipment used for dyke construction.

. . . 2

b) Other Flood Fighting

Costs may include:

(i) Labour (other than salaries or wages of regular employees whether salaried or hourly paid.

(ii) Normal operating costs of pumps, boats, trucks and related equipment including rentals; but shall not include the cost of operating permanent pumping stations.

(iii) Protection, maintenance and operation of centralized local flood emergency headquarters.

2. Restoration

a) Municipal/Reserve Drains

In respect to municipal/reserve drains the province will share in the cost of restoring municipal/reserve drains to the condition existing prior to the flooding in the spring of 1988.

Where the municipality/reserve wishes to raise the standard of the drain, it may do so with the approval of the Water Resources Branch. Assistance will only be granted on the basis of the Water Resources Branch's estimate of costs required to restore the works to a condition estimated to have existed prior to the flooding in the spring of 1988.

b) Municipal/Reserve Roads

With respect to roads and streets, assistance will be provided towards the costs of repairing damages caused by flood water and/or unusual flow velocities.

The term "roads and streets" will include sub-grades, surface and structures as well as other municipal/reserve works such as curbs, catchbasins etc., which must be restored in conjunction with the roadway.

The province will share in the costs of restoring roads and streets only to the condition estimated to have existed prior to the flooding in the spring of 1988.

Where the municipality/reserve wishes to raise the standard of the sub-grade, surface or structure, it may do so with the approval of the Highways District Engineer. Assistance will only be granted on the basis of the District Engineer's estimate of costs required to restore the works to the condition estimated to have existed prior to the flooding in the spring of 1988.

. . . 3

c) Other

The province will share in the restoration of the following public works and facilities:

(i) Municipal public buildings and their related equipment as well as private buildings which were used by the municipal/reserve authorities for their purposes during the period of the flood fighting operation.

(ii) Municipal/reserve sewer and water services.

(iii) Municipal/reserve public recreational facilities such as bathing beaches, zoos, parks, golf courses and community centres.

(iv) No cost sharing will be allowed in respect of upgrading the above works and facilities to higher standards than those which existed prior to the disaster. The restoration cost estimates will be based on what would be required to repair a structure or public work to its immediate pre-disaster condition, in the spring of 1988.

APPENDIX "E"

LETTER FROM THE HONOURABLE ALBERT DRIEDGER TO

THE HONOURABLE PERRIN BEATTY

Manitoba

EPC

Minister of
Government Services

Room 203 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

May 10, 1988

Honourable Perrin Beatty
Minister Responsible for Emergency
Preparedness
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Beatty:

On behalf of the Province of Manitoba, I would request your "approval-in-principle" respecting federal/provincial cost sharing under the Disaster Financial Assistance arrangements for emergency expenditures related to the serious spring flooding experienced in the western portion of the province.

The affected part of Manitoba experienced substantial late season snowfalls, followed by heavy rains. Above normal temperatures caused rapid snow melt which combined with additional rainfall to create the most serious flooding in the Duck Mountain-Swan River-Porcupine area in recent memory.

The situation is most acute in the Rural Municipalities of Swan River, Minitonas, Ethelbert, Mossey River and the Local Government District of Mountain. Damage may also have occurred in other ajoining municipalities.

No immediate accurate estimate in respect to public utility, municipal, individual and other provincial damages directly attributable to this flooding is possible at this time. We will be obtaining assessments as soon as the waters recede and we will make these estimates available to you as soon as possible thereafter.

In the meantime, your "approval-in-principle" is requested in order that we may be in a position to make a joint announcement respecting disaster financial assistance.

./2

As you are no doubt aware we are currently experiencing other problems in Manitoba of significant proportion. Areas other than those mentioned have experienced unusually dry conditions. This has resulted in both a serious fire situation and initial symptoms of severe drought, such as windblown soil erosion and topsoil drifting.

We look forward, as in the past, to your continued financial assistance in these difficult times.

Your early response would be appreciated.

Yours truly,

Albert Driedger

Albert Driedger
Minister

APPENDIX "F"

NEWS RELEASE ANNOUNCING THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE FLOOD INSPECTION

Manitoba

Information Services

Phone: (204) 945-3746

Room 29
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

News Service

Date: May 10, 1988

INSPECTION FOR FLOOD DAMAGE SET TO BEGIN

Premier Gary Filmon has committed his government to providing prompt inspection of personal and public property damage caused by flooding in the Porcupine Mountain, Duck Mountain and Swan River areas.

"The Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board is presently assembling inspection teams who will begin assessing the damage within the next few weeks," Filmon said. "This will ensure compensation is provided as quickly as possible."

Albert Driedger, Minister responsible for the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board, said individuals wishing to make a personal property damage claim can obtain application forms from their local municipal office.

"Property owners are requested to complete the forms and return them to their municipal office," Driedger said. "In turn, municipal officials will forward all completed applications to the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board."

The minister noted that residents wishing to make claims for disaster financial assistance are requested to retain damaged objects for inspection. If this is not possible, a list of affected items is essential.

- 30 -

Contact: Cindy Stevens, phone 945-4102

APPENDIX "G"

LAND RESTORATION POLICY

LAND RESTORATION POLICY FOR ERODED SOILS

AGENCIES: - MANITOBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE BOARD
- MANITOBA AGRICULTURE

BACKGROUND:

Erosion damage to agricultural land should be considered in accordance with the extent to which normal farm operations are impeded. Compensation for soil lost through erosion or reduced productivity should not be considered as criteria for assessing damage. Although the negative effect of erosion on land productivity is well recognized, the precise amount of reduction or the value of a given volume of topsoil cannot be accurately determined. Further, erosion does not typically occur in a uniform manner. Assistance to farmers should be assessed with consideration to what must be done to stabilize and protect land or adjacent lands from further damage. Where it is feasible assistance should be provided to return land to a state where normal farm operations can be conducted.

Erosion damage to agricultural land can be considered under the following categories:

Category 1 - Minor Rill and Gully Damage

- damage not sufficient to impede normal field operations
- no intervention or repair required.

Category 2 - Gully Erosion

- damage sufficient to impede normal field operations
- intervention and repair necessary to:
  (a) return field to normal cropping use
  (b) prevent further erosion damage.

Category 3 - Severe Scouring/Gully Erosion

- sufficient amount of soil removed to preclude repair
- area no longer suitable for annual crop production
- area must be put into alternate and stable use to prevent further damage to surrounding land.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that in cases where action must be taken to repair a gully, that the site be made into a grassed waterway. Technical assistance in grassed waterway design and installation is available from Manitoba Agriculture and PFRA.

Applications for assistance by farmers will be obtained from, and returned to the local municipal office. The municipality will forward applications for assistance to the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board.

The Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board (MDAB) will secure the services of an individual(s) with knowledge of soil erosion restoration works, to act as agricultural land inspector, who will receive administrative direction from MDAD Senior Inspector and technical direction from Soil and Water Management Section of Manitoba Agriculture. The appropriate number of additional inspectors will be hired in accordance with workload.

The agricultural land inspector will be responsible for the initial contact with farmers, and the inspection of the claim site. If action is necessary to repair the gully, action will proceed in accordance

with design criteria set by Manitoba Agriculture, Soils and Crops Branch and Northwest regional staff. A final inspection will be necessary to ensure work has been completed satisfactorily.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE:

If soil erosion has occurred to an extent where heavy equipment is required to repair, or shapen a waterway then the farmer may receive assistance. This will be exclusively for Categories 2 and 3 lands.

The Category 1 lands have incurred damage best treated with long-term soil management and conservation programs and will not be eligible for Disaster Assistance payments.

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

The costs of restoration will be shared as follows:

- farmer pays first $250. of any work costing up to $1,000.
- over $1,000. the cost is shared, 25% farmer, 75% MDAB.

Note: Maximum payments are governed by rules established for MDAB.

Payment for restoration works can be facilitated by:

(a) direct payments to farmers for entire repair costs when such repairs have been completed to satisfaction of MDAB;

(b) payment to contractor for earthmoving work, with a further payment to farmers for seeding and preparation of grassed waterways;

(c) in exceptional conditions, an interim payment may be arranged.

INTERVENTION METHODS AND TREATMENTS RECOMMENDED:

Category 1 - Minor Rill and Gully Damage

This category does not require heavy equipment. Best treated by long-term soil management and soil conservation measures.

Cagegory 2 - Gully Erosion

These are gullies contained within farm fields which require filling and shaping with heavy equipment, not normally available on farms. Applications covering land that is sufficiently damaged to fit in this category will be referred to the "Agricultural Land Inspector". Technical advice will be required to recommend correct treatment and design of the waterway. Establishment of a grassed waterway is essential.

Category 3 - Severe Scouring/Gully Erosion

Applications covering land that is sufficiently damaged to fit in this category will be referred to the Agricultural Land Inspector. When identified, such lands shall be referred to qualified individuals from Manitoba Agriculture, who may consult PFRA, Natural Resources, and Rural Municipalities for advice to determine the best course of action.

Two major options can be considered for land in this category, as follows:

A. CROWN PURCHASE

- Land would be purchased at appraised value before repair.
- Only to be considered where parcel is of sufficient size to warrant purchase, or contiguous to existing Crown land.
- Crown would level and repair, and seed to forages.
- Lands could be leased back to farmer for grazing or limited cropping.
- No future damage payments would be necessary.
- Such land could be considered for alternate use programs in the future.
- Such lands would create an ongoing maintenance and administrative cost to the Crown.

B. RETAIN IN PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

- All damaged lands would be seeded to forages after repair with heavy machinery.
- Tax assessments would be lowered to reflect the effect of damage on land productivity.

Note: - It is difficult to develop uniform response for all cases and each should be given individual attention.

- Consultation required between all interested parties could be used to determine the best solution for each case. Interested parties would include: the landowners, Manitoba Agriculture, Manitoba Natural Resources, Rural Municipalities, and PFRA.

Prepared by Graham Somers
EMO Coordinator
Manitoba Agriculture

Jim Tokarchuk
Soils & Crops Branch
Manitoba Agriculture

May 17, 1988

LAND RESTORATION POLICY FOR ERODED SOILS

PROCEDURAL STATEMENT:

This procedure is pursuant to the above stated policy.

(1) Applications for Disaster Assistance will be obtained from the Rural Municipal office.

(2) Applications will be returned to Municipal office.

(3) The Municipal office will forward applications to the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board at 207 Donald Street., Winnipeg. Alternative arrangement may be approved by MDAB's chief inspector.

(4) Applications identifying for soil erosion will be separated out and forwarded to Agricultural Land Inspector for field inspection.

(5) The Agricultural Land Inspector will assess the damage, determine the appropriate treatment and estimate the cost of restoration. Treatment and costs will be discussed with farmers. An agreement form will be completed and signed by inspector and farmer. Farmer may proceed with works on the understanding that payment can only be authorized by the Board.

(6) Agreement form will be forwarded to MDAB for review. An authorization letter will be sent by MDAB upon approval of the estimated cost.

(7) Farmer may proceed with works. If costs are to exceed estimates then inspector should be contacted and estimates revised.

(8) Farmer will notify MDAB and Board's inspector upon completion of work including seed down of area. Final inspection will be made and payment requested.

(9) In exceptional cases, if costs are to be incurred over an extended period of time, then an interim payment can be requested.

APPENDIX "H"

LETTER FROM THE HONOURABLE PERRIN BEATTY TO THE PROVINCE

AGREEING TO PARTICIPATE IN COST-SHARING

Minister Responsible for Emergency Preparedness

Ministre responsable pour la Protection civile

MAY 31 1988

The Honourable Albert Driedger, M.L.A.
Minister of Government Services and
Minister Responsible for Emergency Measures
Room 203
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Driedger:

Thank you for your letter of May 10, 1988 regarding the serious spring flooding experienced in the western portion of the province. May I, first of all, extend my congratulations to you on your appointment as Minister of Government Services. I look forward to working with you in the emergency preparedness aspect of your responsibilities.

The federal government will be pleased to provide financial assistance in meeting the cost of recovering from the effects of these floods, in accordance with the guidelines established for such assistance under the Disaster Financial Assistance arrangements.

I have named Mr. A.J.K. Rasmussen, Emergency Preparedness Canada's Regional Director in Manitoba, as the federal government's representative to work with your officials in determining costs eligible for assistance. I would be pleased to consider an advance payment of a portion of the federal assistance as soon as an assessment of eligible costs makes this feasible.

May I on behalf of the Government of Canada express my concern for, and extend my sympathies to, the people of Manitoba who have been affected by the floods. I trust that by working together we will be able to alleviate much of the hardship they have experienced.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
ORIGINAL SIGNÉ PAR
HON. PERRIN BEATTY

Perrin Beatty

APPENDIX "I"

NEWS RELEASE ANNOUNCING FLOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

IN THE SWAN RIVER AREA

Canada Manitoba

June 23, 1988

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FOR SWAN RIVER FLOODING

Albert Driedger, Minister responsible for the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board and Perrin Beatty, federal Minister responsible for Emergency Preparedness Canada, have announced that the federal and provincial governments will provide financial assistance for private and public damages resulting from 1988 flooding in the Swan River area.

Total damage costs associated with this flooding are approximately $2.35 million, Driedger said.

Assistance will be provided within the guidelines and conditions of both the federal and provincial disaster financial assistance policies. Under these policies, the province assists municipalities, and the federal government assists the provincial government when disaster damage costs constitute an unreasonable financial burden. Per capita cost-sharing formulas are used to determine when it is feasible for the municipality or province to seek additional financial assistance.

In this case, application of these formulas resulted in both the provincial and federal governments contributing to flood damage assistance, Beatty said.

Driedger noted that the Disaster Assistance Board will be mailing letters of award acknowledgement in the next few weeks, with payments to follow shortly after.

- 30 -

Contact: Cindy Stevens, phone 945-4102

APPENDIX "J"

LETTER TO VARIOUS MUNICIPALITIES

ADVISING THEM OF THE PROGRAM

Manitoba

Minister of
Government Services

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

June 24, 1988

Mr. William P. Galloway
Reeve
Rural Municipality of Swan River
Box 610
Swan River, Manitoba
ROL 1Z0

Dear Mr. Galloway:

The Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba have announced that they will provide financial assistance for public and individual losses and damages incurred from this year's spring flooding. As a result of this assistance, municipal governments will now be financially responsible for only 10% of their eligible claim.

For individual losses, each claim will be subject to a deductible amount of $250.00 or 25% of approved costs, whichever is greater.

A copy of the News Release is enclosed, which will provide you with further details on this assistance.

The Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board will administer this program. If you require more information, please contact them at 945-3050, or write to them at 207 Donald Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 1M5.

Sincerely,

Albert Driedger
Minister

Enclosure

bcc: J. Masi

APPENDIX "K"

ALL THE FORMS USED TO ADMINISTER

THE FLOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Application for Assistance Re Losses and Damages

Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board
207 Donald Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 1M5
(204) 945-3050

Area

Buildings, Moveable Objects, Personal Effects, Other Out-of-Pocket Expenses and Erosion of Farm Lands

Careful completion of this form will greatly assist in early assessment and payment of your claim.

Name of Applicant _____ Telephone _____

Postal Address _____

Street Address _____

Legal Property Description _____ Tax Roll No. _____

Do you have insurance to cover any of your losses? Yes ☐ No ☐

Receipts and invoices for all out-of-pocket expenses must be attached.

Size of Family	Male	Female
Adults (age 15 and over)		
Children (under age 15)		

Structural Damage to Buildings

If due to Flooding above basement floor above ground floor

Depth of water in building: _____ feet Date of Flooding _____

Type of water _____

Inspector's verification _____

Place X where applicable

- ☐ Residence
- ☐ Garage
- ☐ Barn or Stable
- ☐ Other Buildings
- ☐ Small Business
- ☐ Farmland Erosion

For the buildings in question I am legally authorized to make representation as:

- ☐ Registered owner clear title
- ☐ Registered owner subject to Mortgage
- ☐ Registered owner under Agreement of Sale
- ☐ Tenant and agent of the owner, or
- ☐ Non-tenant agent of the owner.

If applicant is not the owner give name and address of owner.

Name _____ P.O. Address _____ Telephone _____

Moveable Objects, Personal Effects, Out-of-Pocket Expenses and Details of Erosion

Quantity	Article	Original Cost	Year of Purchase
	If more space is required use reverse side or attach separate sheet.		

Note: Retain all items listed above for inspection by Board inspector.

DECLARATION

1. I certify that the above statements represent a true and correct listing of expenses and/or losses incurred by me.
2. I understand that any amount awarded as partial reimbursement of expenses incurred by me as a result of the disaster is a grant from Government.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

MO-H333 (Rev. 87)

MANITOBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE BOARD

Name of Applicant _____ Date _____

Address _____ Inspector _____

Size of Damage and Cubic Yards Eroded

Legal Description _____

Length _____ ft. x width _____ ft. x depth _____ ft. = _____ cu.ft. ÷ 27 = _____ cu

Length _____ ft. x width _____ ft. x depth _____ ft. = _____ cu.ft. ÷ 27 = _____ cu

Length _____ ft. x width _____ ft. x depth _____ ft. = _____ cu.ft. ÷ 27 = _____ cu

Legal Description _____

Length _____ ft. x width _____ ft. x depth _____ ft. = _____ cu.ft. ÷ 27 = _____ cu

Length _____ ft. x width _____ ft. x depth _____ ft. = _____ cu.ft. ÷ 27 = _____ cu

Length _____ ft. x width _____ ft. x depth _____ ft. = _____ cu.ft. ÷ 27 = _____ cu

Total = _____ cu

Equipment Used: (H.P.-Width-Bucket Size-Tonnage under Misc.)

Type	Make	Model	Misc.	Hours	x	Rate	
					x		=
					x		=
					x		=
					x		=
					x		=
					x		=
					x		=
					x		=
					x		=
					x		=

Others: (Livestock-Feed-Grain Lean-Out Buildings)

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

Total Compensation _____

Less Deductible (75% or $250.) _____

Total Amount of Award _____

Date _____

Evaluator _____

Chairman _____

Date _____

Evaluator _____

Secretary _____

MANITOBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE BOARD

EROSION REPAIRS - EQUIPMENT USED

NAME OF APPLICANT _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

Tractors: Track, 2 or 4 W.Dr.

Make _____ Model _____ H.P. _____ Hrs. in Use _____ _____

Make _____ Model _____ H.P. _____ Hrs. in Use _____ _____

Make _____ Model _____ H.P. _____ Hrs. in Use _____ _____

Front End Loader Tractor: Factory Installation - Yes _____ No _____ Track, 2 or 4 W Dr. Bucket Size

Make _____ Model _____ H.P. _____ Hrs. in Use _____ _____ _____ yds

Make _____ Model _____ H.P. _____ Hrs. in Use _____ _____ _____ yds

Disks - Deep Tiller - Cultivator or Others: Rigid _____ Wing Type _____

Type _____ Make _____ Model _____ Width _____ Hrs. in use _____

Type _____ Make _____ Model _____ Width _____ Hrs. in use _____

Type _____ Make _____ Model _____ Width _____ Hrs. in use _____

Type _____ Make _____ Model _____ Width _____ Hrs. in use _____

Scraper - Pull Type:

Make _____ Model _____ Yardage Struck _____ Hrs. in use _____

Scraper - Single Engine _____ Twin Engine _____

Make _____ Model _____ Yardage Struck _____ Hrs. in use _____ _____

Make _____ Model _____ Yardage Struck _____ Hrs. in use _____ _____

Bulldozer: 2 or 4 WDr. Tracks

Make _____ Model _____ H.P. _____ Blade Width _____ Hrs. in use _____ _____

Make _____ Model _____ H.P. _____ Blade Width _____ Hrs. in use _____ _____

Trucks:

Make _____ Model _____ Yards or tons, tonnes _____ Hrs. in use _____

Make _____ Model _____ Yards or tons, tonnes _____ Hrs. in use _____

Make _____ Model _____ Yards or tons, tonnes _____ Hrs. in use _____

Other Equipment

Make _____ Model _____ Type _____ Hrs. in use _____

Make _____ Model _____ Type _____ Hrs. in use _____

Make _____ Model _____ Type _____ Hrs. in use _____

Additional Information: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____
Applicant's Signature

Inspector's Certification

Where applicant states that he is the owner

I certify that the tax roll number and name on the application for assistance form agrees with the actual property tax bill.

Date: _____ _____
Inspector's Signature

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

_____

Home Owners Labour for:

Cleaning ..... Hrs. _____

Removal of Damaged Materials:..... Hrs. _____

Claimant's own labour to complete repairs.... Hrs. _____

.....

For Office Use Only

_____

_____ _____
Signature

Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board

Moveable Objects and Personal Effects etc.

Name of Applicant _____ Telephone No. _____

Postal Address _____

Legal Property Description (Section or Lot No.) _____

Water Levels _____

ITEM	Original Cost	Year of Purchase

MANITOBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE BOARD

List of Articles DISPOSED OF _____ as a Result of the Disaster.
DAMAGED BUT RETAINED _____

(Please check of one that is applicable)

QTY.	ARTICLE	NEW PRICE	AGE	OFFICE EVALUATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Witness

Name

Address

Grain Loss Information and Evaluation Sheet

Claimant's Name _____

Legal Description of Land Where Grain Stored _____

Municipality or L.G.D. _____

Formula for deriving number of bushels in different types of bins etc.

Square or Rectangular Building

_____ x _____ x _____ = _____
(Length) (Width) (Depth) (Number of cu. ft.)

Number of cubic ft. x 0.78 gives you number of bushels _____

Round Bin

_____ x _____ gives you volume _____ cubic feet
(Area of base) (height)

Number of cubic feet x 0.78 gives you number of bushels _____

Pile or Cone Type Storage

_____ x _____ ÷ 3 gives you volume _____ cubic feet
(Area of base) (height)

Number of cubic feet x 0.78 gives you number of bushels _____

Inventory of Flood Damaged Grain

Size of Building	Type of Grain	No. cu.ft.			x 0.78 =	Bushels	x	Rate per Bushel	=	

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE GRAIN IS OWNED BY ME AND WAS DAMAGED BY FLOOD WATERS:

Date _____ _____
(Farmer) Signature

INSPECTOR'S COMMENTS: (Indicate source of flood water and other pertinent information)

_____

_____

_____

_____

Date _____ _____
(Inspector) Signature

Erosion Damage Diagram

Manitoba
Disaster
Assistance Board

CLAIMANT _____

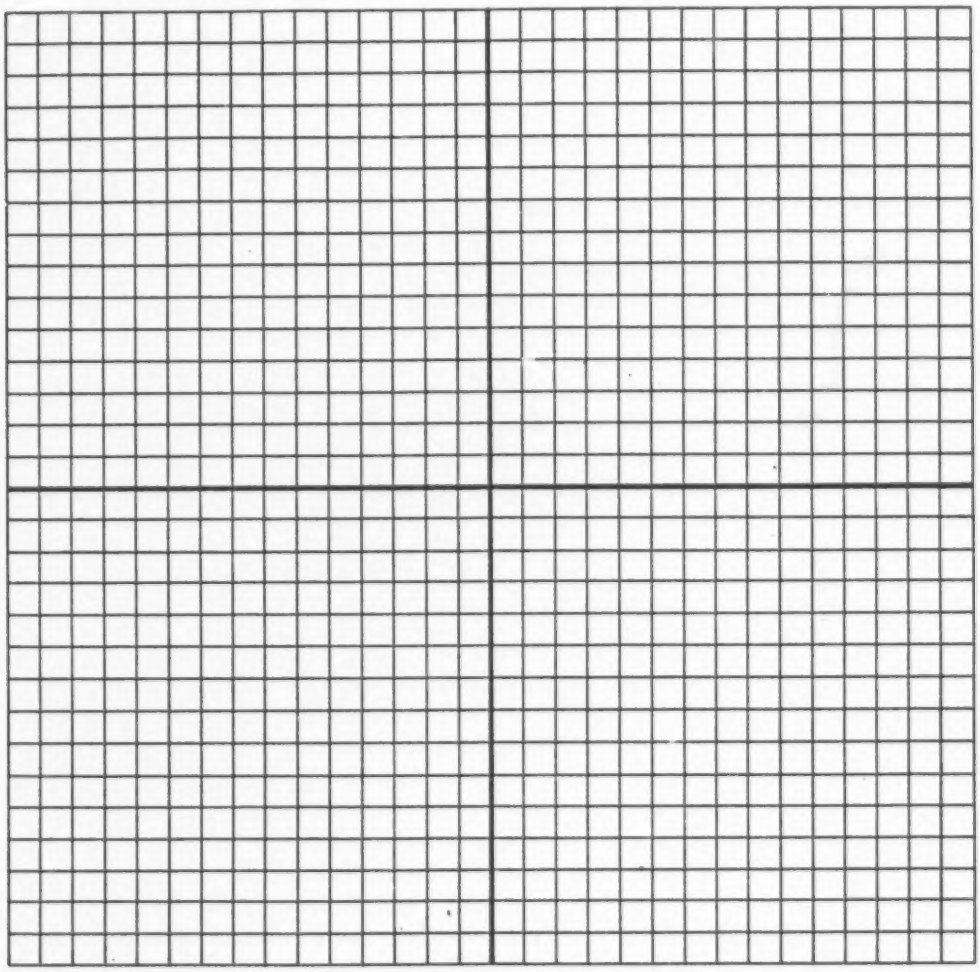
Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.
Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.
Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.

Erosion Damage Diagram Divided Into ¼ Sections.

Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.
Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.
Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.

¼ Sec. NW _____ _____ _____

¼ Sec. NE _____ _____ _____



¼ Sec. SW _____ _____ _____

Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.
Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.
Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.

¼ Sec. SE _____ _____ _____

Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.
Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.
Length _____ Ft. x Width _____ Ft. x Depth _____ Ft.

Additional Information or Comments: _____

Date: _____

I HEREBY ACCEPT SIZE AND SKETCH OF DAMAGE

_____
Inspector's Signature

_____
Claimant's Signature

MG-14433

FARM PROPERTY DAMAGE SCHEDULE

OWNER _____ ADDRESS _____

WATER LEVEL _____ TYPE OF WATER _____

DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
BARN	Water Level:	
Size		
Exterior Walls		
Interior Walls	Insulated: Yes ___ No ___	
Floor		
Doors		
Roof		
MACHINE SHED	Water Level:	
Size		
Exterior Walls		
Interior Walls	Insulated: Yes ___ No ___	
Floor		
Doors		
Roof		
GARAGE	Water Level:	
Size		
Exterior Walls		
Interior Walls	Insulated: Yes ___ No ___	
Floor		
Doors		
Roof		
GRANARIES	Water Level:	
Size		
Exterior Walls		
Interior Walls		
Floor		
Doors		
Roof		
Other	Water Level	
Size		
Exterior Walls		
Interior Walls		
Floor		
Doors		
Roof		

I HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF THAT THIS REPORT IS CORRECT.

Date of Inspection _____ Inspector _____

TOTAL _____

Valuator _____

Valuation Date _____

Manitoba

Government Services

Manitoba Disaster
Assistance Board

Main Floor - 800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3G 0N4

(204) 945-3050

AWARD NO.

Re: _____

With reference to your application re losses and damages caused by _____ _____ to the above property, we wish to inform you that your application has now been considered by the Board.

The decision of the Board is to award you the following ex-gratia payment to assist you in defraying the costs of your losses and/or the repair of damages relating to the above described property.

$	for Structural Damages
$	for Movable Objects, Personal Effects, Business Inventories, etc.
$	

This award is being made on the understanding that the money will be applied towards repair of the above property.

If you would like to appeal this decision, please forward a letter of appeal to the Secretary of the Board within 15 days of receiving this award letter.

Yours truly,

Chairman

Secretary

Original — White to Claimant; Second Copy — Green to Finance Department; Third Copy — Canary to Accounting; Fourth Copy — Pink to Voucher File; Fifth Copy — Goldenrod to Claim File.

MG-8483 (Rev. 88)

MANITOBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE BOARD

Financial Assistance Agreement

WHEREAS _____ (hereinafter
(name)
referred to as the "Recipient") has been awarded Financial Assistance by the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") in the amount of $_____ as compensation for losses arising from _____
(hereinafter referred to as the "losses").

NOW THEREFORE IN CONSIDERATION of the above amount, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the Recipient hereby convenants and agrees as follows:

1. The Recipient shall forthwith advise the Secretary of the Board of any compensation received by the Recipient from any other sources for the losses.

2. If in the opinion of the Board the compensation from other sources relates to the particular losses for which Financial Assistance has been paid by the Board, the amount of that compensation, not exceeding the amount of Financial Assistance paid, shall consitute a debt due and payable to the Government of Manitoba.

3. The debt referred to in paragraph two shall be payable to the Government of Manitoba within thirty days from the date of mailing by the Board of written notice of the debt to the Recipient.

4. The Recipient shall, within thirty days of the mailing of a written request by the Board, give any person desiginated by the Board access to any records and documents within the power and control of the Recipient and relating to the losses and any compensation received.

5. If the Recipient fails to report compensation as required by paragraph one or fails to comply with a request under paragraph three the entire amount of the Financial Assistance paid herewith shall be deemed to be a debt due to the Government of Manitoba, payable on demand.

DATED the _____ day of _____, 19____.

_____
(Recipient's Signature)

_____
(Witness)

Cheque Requisition

Manitoba Government Services
Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board

Main Floor
800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3G 0N4

Award No.
Area

Claimant _____ Date Issued _____ 19 ____

Address _____

_____

MAXIMUM AUTHORIZED AWARD $ _____

To: PROVINCIAL TREASURER

Please prepare cheque(s) payable jointly to the undernoted supplier(s) and the claimant; and mail cheque(s) directly to claimant.

Name of Claimant	Name of Supplier	Cheque Amount

Approved by .....
Chief Inspector

Sub - Total	$
Previous Payment	$
TOTAL PAID	$

Payments will not be made until instructions hereunder have been complied with and certificates A & B have been duly completed.

A CERTIFICATE OF CLAIMANT

I hereby acknowledge the good delivery to me and satisfactory services performed for me by the supplier(s) for invoices attached.

Final Payment _____

Further Progress Payments Required _____

Date ....

B CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTOR

I hereby certify that goods and services have been received by the claimant, that work has been completed and I recommend payments shown above.

Final Payment _____

Further Progress Payments Required _____

Date ....

FOR BOARD USE ONLY

Authorized and approved for payment and is within the limits approved by Order-in-Council.

Secretary .....

Chairman .....

Audited by .....

... Claim File; 3rd copy – Pink to Voucher File.

PAYMENT VOUCHER

Manitoba Finance

1 DATE

2 PAYMENT VOUCHER NO. 659624

3 MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:

4 FOR ACCOUNT OF:

NAME

ADDRESS

5 TOTALIZED ACCOUNT

6 SOCIAL INSURANCE NO

10 INVOICE DATE	10 INVOICE NUMBER	11 TYPE	12 AMOUNT PAYABLE	13 PARTICULARS

20 ACCOUNT NUMBER (DEPT. MAIN AND SUB ACCOUNT)	21 LATE	22 AMOUNT	23 EXPENDITURE OBJECT	24 REFERENCE	25 DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM	RESP. CENTRE	ACTIVITY	SUB-ACTIVITY	26 SHAREABILITY

DISTRIBUTION: PART 1 - Provincial Audit
Other Parts - See F.A.M. 2D - 1.1

FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE

30

NOT FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE

PROVINCIAL AUDITOR'S OFFICE EXAMINED BY:

Payment requisitioned in accordance with the requirements of The Financial Administration Act. Particularly, the undersigned certifies that goods or services have been received or the payment is in accordance with a contract therefor, that prices are as agreed and that funds are available within the account charged.

31 DEPUTY MINISTER OR AUTHORIZED SIGNING OFFICER

0 PS-1 105

APPENDIX "L"

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES WRITTEN ON THE SWAN RIVER PROGRAM

Wpg Free Press Wed. May 4

Swan River flash flood called worst in 50 years

By David Nadeau
Special to the Free Press

SWAN RIVER — A flash flood that left farm families isolated and some houses with water up to the floor joists is being called the worst in nearly 50 years.

One councillor with the Rural Municipality of Swan River said the council will probably ask the province for assistance once the cleanup that began yesterday is completed.

"Once things settle down a bit we will make an assessment and will most certainly be making an appeal to the provincial government for assistance," Coun. Jake Buhler said after surveying some of the damage.

Buhler refused to call the extensive flooding a disaster. "That would be pushing it. We have extensive damage, but there isn't and hasn't been any threat to human life."

The flood, caused by a combination of 75 millimetres of rain in a 48-hour period and three late-spring blizzards, also left cows stranded on islands, rail lines damaged and and power poles askew.

Flood waters were expected to begin receding today. The rain stopped yesterday and none was expected today.

Many grain and animal farmers will feel the stinging pinch of this flood for a long time to come.

Reg Metcalfe, 39, farms 760 hect-

See FARMERS page 4

Farmers struggle to save livestock during flooding

continued from page 1

ares 10 kilometres north of Swan River. His huge L-shaped hog barn is located within a stone's throw of the swollen Woody River.

He worked all Monday night with two neighbors to move his 850 hogs to higher ground, but lost three due to stress.

"No insurance for them," Metcalfe shrugged, as he slogged through the deep mud in his yard.

"And now we have to feed and water them by hand. Just try handling two tons of feed a day. It's no fun," he said.

He said he hopes to begin moving the animals back tomorrow if the flood waters recede.

Paul Daviduik, who operates a feedlot about five kilometres from Metcalfe, said he has about 20 head of cattle stranded on a piece of land cut off by the Bowsman River.

The river is usually shallow and six metres wide. Yesterday, it was 37.5 metres wide and impassible.

Both Metcalfe and Daviduik have lived most of their lives on these farms and have never seen flooding this bad.

Stephanie Jersak, the local Agriculture Department representative, was driving the back roads yesterday, trying to get a feeling for just how serious the situation was.

Jersak said she was very concerned about the depth of water cuts in fields, some of which have deposited large blocks of soil in the ditches. Some of the water cuts are as much as 4.2 metres wide, she said. Others are more than half a metre deep.

The flood has affected more than the agricultural producers.

Buhler and nearly 20 other men spent most of Monday sandbagging. They had to use four boats just to transport the sandbags 400 metres to the threatened area, south of Swan River, on the appropriately named Roaring River.

Other area residents are isolated in or from their homes by farm lanes or country roads covered in water.

A short 1.6-kilometre trip to town meant a 15- to 24-kilometre backroad journey to avoid damaged roads.

Basements flooded right up to the floor joists were common and reports were being received about drowned hogs.

Highway 83, Swan River's link to Roblin, Russell and the Saskatchewan border was closed all Monday night, local RCMP said.

The roads leading to the afflicted area were busy all day and evening with sightseers — who would often find themselves jumping in to help those in trouble.

Wpg Free Press May 6/88

Residents brace for second wave

By Stuart McCarthy

Farmers and residents of the n River area hit by the worst ding in decades are bracing for econd wave of trouble with rain in forecast.

nvironment Canada said the cast for the area is for periods of n tomorrow and Sunday. Weather ecialist Guy Lauze said it was too y to predict how much rain is ected, but said it would be re than just a few showers.

'It sounds pretty good for Kenora the Whiteshell (where there are st fires) but sounds pretty bad Swan River," Lauze said. "I'm re when they hear this, they won't o pleased."

'Turn bad if it rains'

Coun. John Zinchuk of the Rural icipality of Swan River was dis- ed by the forecast.

It could turn bad again if it rains ain," Zinchuk said.

e said the water level is dropping ly and has fallen about 1.2 res since the flooding peaked r days ago. However, the rivers still swollen and many fields are under water.

amage has been estimated at ll over $1 million, although it is a h estimate. Up to $1 million for repairs and cleanup will be ded over the 7,250-square-kilo-

PROVINCE

metre area between the Porcupine Mountains and Swan Lake. Officials have said 90 per cent of the people in Swan River and Minitonas have been hit by the flood.

"I know that my ward is getting better but the rivers are still extremely high," Zinchuk said. "It has to go down at least another three feet before we can do anything."

He said he hopes the new provincial government will provide financial help for the region. A spokesman for premier-elect Gary Filmon said the new government cannot do anything along those lines until it is sworn in Monday.

Emergency Measures Organization spokesman Cindy Stevens said it will take that long to assess the damage and determine how much relief will be needed.

"It certainly looks like they'll be getting something," Stevens said.

She said EMO is doing what it can, making arrangements for supplies and equipment as needed.

"One problem that they're noting is soil erosion, which could be a long-term problem," Stevens said. "The problem right now is that so many things are still covered l water that we cannot tell how ba the damage is."

Stevens said after EMO has do its assessment, the Manitoba D saster Assistance Board will inspe the damage and appraise the cos The board will then determine hc much money is needed from th provincial and federal government Stevens said final decision will re with the provincial and federal go ernment cabinets.

When the area was hit by floodi in 1976, the province funded half t cleanup costs.

Flood scars prime farmland

RM officials estimate damages at $1 million

By Radha Krishnan Thampi
Winnipeg Free Press

SWAN RIVER — Damage is estimated as high as $1 million in a flash flood that has gouged gullies into prime farmland and washed away bridges and roads in this region.

Rural Municipality of Swan River officials said it will take several weeks before actual losses from the flood will be known.

They said the region will require between $500,000 and $1 million to restore roads and to complete the extensive cleanup operation stretched over a 7,250-square-kilometre area, between the Porcupine Mountains and Swan Lake.

Worst in 24 years

The home of about 4,000 rural Manitobans is strewn with uncorrupied culverts, washed-out roads, overflowing creeks and patches of soggy green farmland.

"I have never seen anything like this," RM Coun. John Zinchuk, a grain farmer who has lived in the area for 40 years, said, adding the flood will delay this year's seeding by at least three or four weeks.

John Towle, western regional water resources manager for the province, said the flood is the worst in the 24 years that data have been collected.

Towle said several gauging stations were destroyed, making actual water-level information unavailable for comparison.

"But most streams have exceeded past records," he said, adding damage to farmland and properties is extensive.

He said much farmland has suffered soil erosion, leaving patches throughout the region.

"It's history in the making," he said, adding the region of prime farmland will never be the same.

Towle flew over the area yesterday with Bill Davidson, a disaster assistance board official from Brandon.

Swan River Reeve Bill Galloway and his council met Towle and Davidson yesterday afternoon to seek provincial help. Galloway told the officials that 90 per cent of the people in Swan River and Minitonas, most of whom are farmers, were affected by the flood.

See PROVINCIAL page 4

Irwin Johnson slogs through silt in his flooded yard.

Provincial aid sought to repair flood damage

continued from page 1

Meanwhile, the provincial flood forecast centre issued a new warning yesterday that the nearby Dauphin River watershed will continue to rise during the next two weeks.

"The level of Lake Winnipegosis and of nearby Swan Lake, Pelican Lake and Waterhen Lake are likely to rise to levels similar to those experienced in 1979 and possibly even as high as the record levels of 1954," the forecast warned.

Towle said the water level of the Shellmouth Reservoir, on the upper Assiniboine River near Russell, is on the rise and could reach the spillway level by next Thursday.

He said it means more rain in the next two weeks could worsen the flood situation, especially in neighboring Russell.

Galloway said he hopes the new provincial government, to be sworn in Monday, will help the region by paying for all repair costs. He noted that in 1976, the last time the region was devastated by a flood, the province came up with half the restoration costs.

"We expect the new government to come up with the help," he said, adding his rural municipality spends about $300,000 of its $2-million annual budget on road repairs.

"No way we can raise the $500,000 or the $1 million," he said.

Swan River spared

Zinchuk, councillor for one of the worst-hit areas, said the flooding was the most extensive in the 40 years he has lived in the area.

He said some 50 to 100 farmers living on the riverside have suffered the most. Some of them, he added, had to move hundreds of their cattle elsewhere while hundreds of grain bins were still underwater.

"But we will bounce back," both Galloway and Zinchuk said, adding their immediate concern is to restore rural transportation arteries.

Major provincial roads and highways, closed earlier, were reopened yesterday.

Swan River Mayor Fred Sigurdson said the town was spared the flood's ravages, although some properties within its limits needed sandbagging.

During the last three days, Irwin Johnson has been running his automotive business in Sand River over the telephone.

Johnson, 57, said he couldn't get out of his farmhouse outside of town because flood waters had washed away his access road.

Johnson's two lawnmowers, antique car and trailer were still under flood waters yesterday.

He estimated his loss at $5,000. But he said some of his neighbors lost much more.

"I was once a farmer, I know what it is like to go through the flood ravages," he said.

Wpg Free Press May 8/88

ry Filmon surveys washed-out bridge near Swan River during tour of flood-damaged area yesterday.

Filmon promises flood assistance

Destruction surprises premier-elect during tour of sodden valley

y David Nadeau
ecial to the Free Press

SWAN RIVER — Premier-elect ry Filmon promised provincial sistance for the flood-damaged an River Valley yesterday during mud-spattered tour of the area.

Filmon said the damage to some of best agricultural land in the vince may be severe enough to ality for federal assistance.

"I've seen cuts in fields before, but thing like this," Filmon said of the al Minitonas-area grain farmer unby Belcher was planning to seed r spring.

Deep t. .ches, studded with gia- l boulders, carve the area. Vast mounts of soil have disappeared.

Local Progressive Conservative rty officials, including newly ected MLA Parker Burrell, escort- Filmon to several of the more verely damaged places in the val-, swaying and pitching over deep- ly rutted roads which are still saturated or showing the effects of running water.

"I am glad I was invited, so we can see the extent of the damage," Filmon said.

Animals stranded

"Very clearly there is a need for disaster relief assistance from us. I suppose it may even reach the level of qualifying for federal assistance," he said.

He was referring to arrangements that can be struck between the Manitoba Disaster Financial Assistance Board and the federal government when damage exceeds $1 million.

Because the damage across the valley is so great, Filmon was not able to view all the flooded areas. Had he been able to travel farther north, he would have heard first-hand stories about cattle being drowned, animals still marooned on islands and helicopter lifts of emergency rations to cattle.

One producer, Ernie Shimkus, who ranches north of Swan River, has seen his herd reduced to about 175 head from 200.

Filmon said applications for financial assistance are already in the hands of local officials.

"I am urging them to ensure applications are sent in," Filmon said.

"The assessors and inspectors will be coming as soon as possible to verify claims."

Many claims will not be made for some time because there continues to be a great deal of water covering unknown damage to roads and property.

"Assistance applications will be dealt with more quickly than normal," Filmon promised. "Until there is a full assessment of the damage nothing can proceed."

Filmon said he had seen flood damage before, "but I've never see anything like this, with the remov of so much good soil.

"We will have to involve t Department of Agriculture and t Department of Natural Resources the assessment process. The dar age on some farms I saw today is bad it is my guess they will not pu back into production for a lon time," he said.

Rural Municipality of Swan Riv Reeve Bill Galloway said he counte 24 complete cuts in roads in his juri diction.

Reeve Sam Kublick of the RM Minitonas is looking at as many a 12.

"And there are four others whi are still underwater so we don know what to expect," Kublic said.

The repairs are going to be expe sive.

Galloway stood beside one d maged bridge while the roarin river continued to eat away at th road.

"If we put in a free-span bridge, he told Filmon, "we are looking well over $125,000."

Kublick waved at a smashed c ment low-level crossing on the Fav River, south of Minitonas.

"It will take at least $50,000 to g this back in service," he said.

Flood damage qualifies for federal funds, Filmon says

By Pauline Comeau

Flood damage in the Swan River Valley area will exceed the $1 million mark and be eligible for federal funding relief, Premier Gary Filmon said yesterday.

PROVINCE

Filmon said he sent a letter to Ottawa yesterday indicating preliminary figures on damage to municipal and provincial property has already surpassed the level at which federal funding will kick in and that further claims are still being processed.

Damages past the $1 million threshold are shared 50-50 between the federal and provincial governments, said Filmon. Once past the $3 million mark another formula kicks in.

"We were alerting them (Ottawa) to the fact that this flood damage is anticipated to be well over $1 million and that their participation in the financing is expected," Filmon said after he had been briefed by deputy ministers and chiefs of staff from various departments.

Filmon said a total on the damage has not been estimated and would have to wait for private property claims that are still being collected by regional offices.

Filmon said government inspectors will be dispatched to the area promptly to ensure all claims are processed quickly.

Filmon spent his first morning as premier being brief by various department heads on three separate natural disaster which have plagued the province during the past two weeks — forest fires, flooding, and drought conditions, especially in the southeast.

Filmon said reports were that the forest fires that raged through the province are now under control, although there are still fears a lack of rain in the southeast could cause more trouble.

"The southeast area of the province is still under dry and there is still the concern that it could flare up again at any moment."

Filmon said about $4 million of the province's $7.5 million emergency fund had already been spent on firefighting and that further money would likely be required to handle drought conditions.

"Our first preference is that we get rain. Beyond that we are prepared to respond to a very serious situation if it should materialize."

However, Agriculture Minister Glen Findlay said drought conditions in Manitoba are not nearly as serious as those being experienced by Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Free Press
Wed. May 18/88

Minister pegs road damage at $300,000

By Janet McFarland

The cost of repairing roads washed out by recent flooding in the Swan River area has been estimated at $300,000, Highways Minister Albert Driedger said this week.

"We anticipate substantial damage claims," he said.

"But, barring any unforseen weather conditions, the situation is improving and we should have a better idea of the total damage soon."

Driedger said 27 bridges in the area have yet to be assessed by engineers for damage, so there is no cost estimate available for them.

He said individuals who want to submit damage claims to the provincial government can pick up the forms at their local municipal offices.

Damage inspected

Meanwhile, Natural Resources Minister Jack Penner, Agriculture Minister Glen Findlay and Municipal Affairs Minister Glen Cummings flew to Swan River Monday to meet local officials and inspect damage.

Swan River Reeve Bill Galloway said the ministers flew over the area and were given a tour of the damaged lands.

"They wanted our ideas on what could be done and we also wanted to quiz them a bit on the mechanics of things from our end," Galloway said.

Galloway said three of 24 gravel-road crossings that were washed away in his municipality are not repaired yet, but no one is cut off without them.

"Everything's finally starting to get back to order," he said.

He said the municipality will have a structural engineer look at underground structure of the maining road crossings to see if it is safe to rebuild or whether they have to be moved.

Although the water has receded, Galloway said gravel roads are equipment and many of the largest repairs will not begin until after the fall harvest.

"Spring seeding is just beginning here now, and in many cases repairs can't be done until after the harvest," he said.

He said silt in the drainage ditches — more than a metre deep in places — could be a hazard if there is a flash downpour, because water would flow over adjoining lands.

"We don't usually get that kind of storm here, though," Galloway said.

Joseph Masi, spokesman for the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board, said inspectors from the board will not begin travelling to residents' homes to assess damage until they have received all the claims.

"As soon as we get the applications, it will be a matter of weeks to complete the inspections," Masi said.

"It's really important that the municipalities gather up the applications and send them in one package so we only have to make one trip."

Joint teams

He said joint teams of inspectors will be assessing damage to municipal and public land over the next several weeks.

He said the board expects claims from the rural municipalities of Swan River, Minitonas and Ethelbert, from the Village of Benito and from the Local Government District of Mountain.

Flooding caused by heavy rainfall peaked May 2 and left deep trenches on prime agricultural land over a 7,250-square-kilometre area between the Porcupine Mountains and Swan Lake.

Vast amounts of soil disappeared, roads were destroyed and officials said 90 per cent of the people in Swan River and Minitonas were affected.

Premier Gary Filmon has said flood damage is expected to exceed $1 million, making the province eli-

Free Press
Monday May 30/88

Experts survey flood damage

The province is sending two soil consultants to the Swan River area to help farmers clear up damage left by flash floods earlier this spring.

Cindy Stevens, a provincial government communications officer, said two land inspectors are to set up shop in the region today to help advise farmers on how to repair soil erosion caused by the flooding.

"A lot of farmers haven't actually seen this kind of damage before.

"I think in a lot of places the gullies are so deep that the portion of land that was gullied could never be used to farm again," she said, adding the gashes in fields will have to be repaired so farmers can get machinery to work sites in adjacent fields.

Meanwhile, the province has set a June 30 deadline for applications for disaster assistance related to the flooding.

Albert Driedger, minister responsible for the Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board, said completed claims can be filed at municipal offices and Agriculture Department offices in the area.

Stevens said individual property owners are eligible for aid of up to $30,000.

She said total claims are expected to exceed the $1-million threshhold at which federal disaster compensation becomes available to help the province pay the claims.

She said she would not want to guess when farmers would start receiving the compensation, but said it would probably be within three to four months of the June 30 deadline.

Winnipeg Free-Press Friday June 24/88

Flood payments set, minister says

Payments to farmers who suffered flood damage in the Swan River area this spring will be in the mail in the next few weeks, Highways Minister Albert Driedger announced yesterday.

Total damages associated with the flooding are about $2.35 million, Driedger said.

He said he did not know what portion of the money would be paid to private property owners, or how much would go to municipal government and provincial departments that are responsible for repairing damaged bridges and roads.

He said the maximum payment to individuals is $30,000.